

West Lafayette Parks & Recreation Department

Staff Management Report

Monday, July 18th, 2016

1. Pennie Ainsworth, Assistant Superintendent's Report

- ✓ Coed and Men's Softball League regular season play will finish up the week of July 25th. The Softball tournament play for will start August 1st. Awards will be presented for both league and tournament winners.
- ✓ A new sign has been order for the new Kiwanis Playground. The new sign recognizes Bob Rohrman Subaru and the McAllister Foundation. Once the sign is installed, Bob Rohrman will donate \$20,000 to be used toward the playground. The Kiwanis are continuing their efforts to raise funds for two more pieces of play equipment, benches and a trash receptacle. The price for these items total \$35,443.68. The interest and use of the shelter has increased since the playground equipment was opened to the public. Children are being bussed to Cumberland Park to play on the new equipment.
- ✓ We are in the process of ordering replacement parts and pieces for the two playgrounds in Happy Hollow Park and Peck-Trachtman Park. The majority of our playground equipment has begun to show their age. The playground equipment is much loved and used over the years. Life expectancy for a playground is 10-15 years. Happy Hollow Park is our most used park and the equipment is 18 years old. Peck-Trachtman Park equipment is 15 years old. Many hours of maintenance help to keep the equipment working and safe for park users.
- ✓ I represented the Parks & Recreation Department at the Farmers Market on June 29th.

2. Chris Foley, Recreation Director's Report:

- ✓ The last summer sports camp begins on Monday, July 18. West Lafayette Varsity Football Coach, Shane Fry, along with his coaching staff and varsity players. The 5 day non-contact football clinic is open to children in grades Kindergarten thru 7th grade.
- ✓ The summer Playground programs will be completed on Tuesday, July 19. The enrollment for the Cumberland site was down again this year. The Burtsfield site had a nearly full registration for session one and a full registration for session two. West Lafayette School's maintenance staff are very accommodating to our program.
- ✓ The summer pool season has once again dealt with both unseasonably cool weather and regular summer heat. Swim lessons were still very popular. We had 1,388 registrations for summer swim lessons. The fourth (4th) and final session of swim lessons began on July 11 and will finish on July 22.
- ✓ The last day for the pool will be Sunday, August 7th. West Lafayette schools will start the following Thursday, August 11.

Bess Witcosky, Morton Center Director:

- ✓ **The Morton 3-week Theatre Arts Camp** will perform The Snow Queen by Hans Christian Anderson on July 29th at 7pm in the Morton Multi Purpose Room. This is a ticketed event.
- ✓ **Family Fun Day** with the West Lafayette Public Library will be held on August 28th from 1p-4p. Activities at Morton will include performances by the A League and Minnetrista Theatre Preserve, Morton instructor demonstrations and arts!

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3. Jon Munn, Parks Director Report:

- ✓ Repairs were made to one kiln at the Morton Center
- ✓ Broken window at Morton Center repaired
- ✓ Mulch installed and the first phase new Kiwanis's playground is open for use.
- ✓ Repairs are complete on the Cumberland park softball lights
- ✓ Repairs are complete on the parks trailer AC system
- ✓ Erosion control work is in progress on the Happy Hollow footpath to Salisbury street access, and is expected to be complete by 7/29/16
- ✓ Little free library installed at Tapawingo park playground
- ✓ I have met with a fencing contractor to get estimates to replace the fence along the trail between Lindberg road and Cherry lane.
- ✓ I have one estimate to reseal approximately 2 miles of trail. From Lindberg road to Cherry lane out to McCormick road to Pickett Park.
- ✓ The 16th annual Wabash Riverfest at Tapawingo Park was a huge success, the weather was perfect and the crowd was steady all day.
- ✓ Work has begun on clearing bushes and trees at the old city hall building in preparation of the demolition of building.

4. Dan Dunten, Stewardship Director's Report

- ✓ Worked with INDOT to have white on brown "Celery Bog Nature Area" guide signs for northbound and southbound US 231 traffic approaching Lindberg Rd.



- ✓ Planted 150 milkweed plants and gave away 75 plants for others to plant on their properties. This was done in an effort to provide more host plants for the monarch butterfly, which is quickly declining in numbers.
- ✓ New Overlook Deck in the Nature Area near Cumberland Ave. is completed so worked on landscaping the area around it. This included adding two trees, 6 ornamental grasses, mulch and seeds of approximately 25 different wildflowers. Dedication of this deck will take place on Monday, August 15.
- ✓ Mulched long sections of the trails at the Nature Area to make it more enjoyable for the walkers and joggers. We have wet areas in certain areas along the trails, so ordered rough-cut oak planks to make narrow foot bridges. These will be constructed in sections and assembled on site.
- ✓ We have 28 Adopt-A-Spots in West Lafayette and I am continually notifying the sponsors to make improvements, as well as locating new adopters.

5. Janet Fawley, Park Superintendent's Report:

- ✓ 6/20: Kiwanis Playground dedication held. Bob Rohrman Subaru pledged \$20,000 to help complete playground.

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- ✓ Held discussion with Mayor re budgeting additional maintenance staff for 2017 & sharing skilled person with Facilities Director regularly in 2017.
- ✓ Met w/ consultants re Happy Hollow Creek Relocation; Timeline set as follows:
 - Meet with the regulatory agencies - August 2016
 - Complete designs and submit permit applications - September - October 2016
 - Receive approved permits (assume 6 months) - March - April 2017
 - Begin construction - May - June 2017
 - Complete construction - July 2016
 - Allow vegetation to establish - this could range from October 2017 to April 2018 depending on weather and growing conditions
 - Open relocation channel - this could range from November 2017 - to May 2018
- ✓ Wrote and submitted article regarding West Lafayette Parks to IPRA Profile.
- ✓ Started planning for August 15th Board Picnic.
- ✓ Attended Pre-council & Council meetings
- ✓ Participated in INDOT Title VI Training in Crawfordsville.
- ✓ Met w/ interested parties regarding Old Morris Schoolhouse(Cumberland & SR 231)
- ✓ Completing 2017 budget requests for Parks & Rec, CCD, EDIT, & RDC.